

THE COUNTRY'S WAR AGAINST THE FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE

Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.

Fourteen states have been quarantined by the United States government for foot-and-mouth disease—Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Iowa and Kentucky. This disease is new to farmers of the United States, for there have been only five outbreaks in the history of the country and of these the first three were unimportant and the two others confined to a comparatively limited area. In Europe, however, it has long been a well known and dread scourge. Should it ever be permitted to establish itself as firmly here it would cause not only tremendous losses to stock but



Typical Lesions on the Feet.

seriously interfere with the supply of meat for the people.

The foot-and-mouth disease affects particularly cattle, swine and sheep. It is characterized by sores in the mouth which make swallowing painful and frequently cause the animals to refuse all food, and by sores on the feet which cause lameness and in severe cases, occasionally result in the hoofs dropping off. The animals lose flesh with extraordinary rapidity and in the case of milk cows the milk supply is so seriously affected that it frequently dries up altogether. The first evidences of the disease are a chill followed quickly by fever, the temperature sometimes rising as high as 104 degrees Fahrenheit. Small vesicles or blisters about the size of a pea appear shortly after in the mouth and spread rapidly. As the disease advances rosy saliva hangs from the afflicted animal's mouth, which is opened and shut with a peculiar smacking sound. In a short time similar eruptions appear on the feet, which are red, tender, swollen and painful. In consequence the animal persists in lying down and bed-sores soon develop. The udders of milk cows are also susceptible and the sores interfere with milking.

Most Contagious of Stock Plagues.

Although the mortality is, except in very severe outbreaks, comparatively low, foot-and-mouth disease is probably the most contagious of all stock plagues. The germ which causes it is so small that it is invisible under the microscope and passes through the finest filter known to science. It can be carried in any one of a hundred ways. In addition to direct contact with affected animals, the disease can be communicated by hay, straw, bedding, harness, ropes, in fact, anything that has even indirectly come in contact with diseased animals. Cats, dogs, and poultry have been known to carry the germ from farm to farm and in particular this is frequently done by human beings. Already in the present outbreak cases are on record where the curiosity of farmers has led them to visit infected herds. On their return to their own homes these men have given the disease to their own animals. For this reason the authorities are urging upon every one the duty of refraining from such visits and of keeping strangers from visiting their stock.

The contagiousness of the disease is such that when one animal in a herd becomes infected it is considered useless to attempt to save the remainder of the herd. For this reason the federal authorities have adopted the only practical method of stamping out the disease, namely, the slaughter of all cattle, sheep and swine on an infected farm. When a case is discovered a deep trench is dug, the animals led into it, slaughtered, their hides slashed, and the carcasses treated with quicklime and then buried under at least five feet of earth. It is advisable to slaughter the animals in the ditch itself in order that the ground may not become affected by dragging the dead bodies over it. The hides are slashed partly in order to facilitate the action of

lime and partly to remove any temptation to dig them up again and sell them. The entire farm premises are thoroughly disinfected and no stock allowed upon them for a period of approximately sixty days.

Appraiser Values the Herd.

In order to compensate the owner of his property thus condemned in the interest of the public welfare, an appraiser is appointed by the state authorities to value the herd. The sum thus fixed is divided equally between the state and the federal authorities. In the last outbreak in 1908 in New England it cost the federal government, which was then paying two-thirds of the appraised values, approximately \$300,000 for condemnation, slaughter and disinfection. The present outbreak is regarded as much more serious.

The inspectors engaged in this work are equipped with a complete rubber outfit which can be thoroughly disinfected after each exposure to infection. Persons who have not the advantage of this equipment should rigorously refrain from exposing themselves to the least risk of infection. As has already been said, the disease is frequently transmitted by human beings, and it is really a crime for any one to gratify his curiosity at the expense of his neighbors. In addition to this danger there are also a number of cases on record in which both children and adults have become infected themselves. Ordinarily the disease is not serious in men, but weakly children who drink contaminated milk suffer so severely that in a few cases death has been known to result. With adults the malady usually takes no more serious form than a slight eruption in the mouth similar to fever blisters and possibly a similar eruption on the hands and fingers. There may be also some fever and nausea, but there is comparatively little danger. In countries where the disease is prevalent many authorities believe that it is fairly general in human beings but that the consequent disturbances in health are so slight that they are not brought to the attention of physicians.

Started in Michigan.

The present outbreak originated in southern Michigan but how the germ found its way there is not yet definitely known. It seems probable that some cattle became infected, that their milk was sent to a creamery and the skim milk then returned to be fed to hogs. A herd of these infected hogs was then shipped to Chicago where they infected the stock-



Rosy Saliva Hanging From Mouth of Stricken Animal.

yards before they themselves revealed any symptoms of the disease. Once this had taken place, every shipment of stock from Chicago to other parts of the country was likely to spread the infection. For this reason federal inspectors have for some time now been engaged in tracing, by the aid of bills of lading and other railroad records, each of these shipments to its destination and inspecting the stock there. This accounts for the discovery of cases in states as far removed from each other as Iowa and Massachusetts. The various quarantines already imposed have been designed to prevent the continued movement of cattle from infected or suspicious places. Once these movements have been halted and all the exposed cattle brought to a standstill, it will be possible for the federal authorities to locate all suspicious cases and by the slaughter of all exposed

cattle ultimately eradicate the disease. The federal quarantines are accompanied by state and local quarantines of individual infected farms. From these no produce whatsoever can be sent out. In many cases children are not even permitted to go to school, and the farmer cannot drive his horses on the public highways.

Stock Raisers Should Help.

The chief obstacle in the way of the successful prosecution of this campaign of isolation and extermination lies in the danger that there may be concealed sources of infection. Although the farmer receives the appraised value of his herd, it is inevitable that the summary slaughter of all his stock should cause him considerable inconvenience as well as in-



Slaughtered Cattle in Trench Ready for Burial.

direct financial loss. To those who can see no further ahead than this and who do not realize what it would mean to the entire country if the disease were once to gain a firm foothold here, there is a natural temptation not to report suspicious cases to the authorities. This, however, is simply to cut off one's nose to spite one's face. The disease cannot be stamped out by ignoring it. The only possible way in which stock raisers can save themselves tremendous losses in the future is to co-operate now with the authorities by reporting every suspicious case of sore mouth or lameness among their stock and by assisting in enforcing the quarantines, both federal and local, which have been declared.

EXCELLENT POINTS CONCERNING SWINE

Alfalfa Recognized as of Greatest Value in Hog Feeding—Care for Sows.

(BY C. S. MILLER.)

If you intend to plow your blue grass and clover pastures next spring, let the pigs have free range over them until the snow falls.

No other feed for small pigs ranks as high in value as skim milk. If you do not have plenty of it on your own farm, better arrange to get some from a neighbor, even if it takes trouble to do it.

In the West alfalfa is now recognized as of the greatest value in hog feeding. Give a brood sow plenty of cut alfalfa with a small ration of corn, say not more than two pounds per day, and she will come through the winter in fine condition.

A slop made of shorts and hot water, fed every other day, is an excellent thing for brood sows.

A good many men will tear themselves from close proximity to a hot stove, dash out into the storm, shovel a few bushels of corn on the ground for their hogs, and then leave them to shiver and freeze without adequate shelter during the night. These men are the fellows who are always sure there is no money in hog raising.

Since Doctor Moore's discovery of the hitherto unknown qualities of copperas, it has been used with great success to preserve the health of hogs. A very small portion, say a teaspoonful in a barrel of drinking water once or twice a week, is recommended.

FIND PLEASURE IN POULTRY.

Woman May Find as Much Enjoyment With Flock of Birds as She Does on Shopping Expedition.

The woman who finds herself possessed for the first time of a flock of poultry will soon learn that she may spend an afternoon working with her birds and be just as much amused as if she spent her time shopping, not will she be nearly so tired as if she had been walking around on hard sidewalks.

Instead of being out of pocket—for most every woman will buy things that she does not need if she chances to see them—she will find that she has added to the possibilities for gain.

To be out in the open air and sunshine is to see more real life than does the woman who is always in the house.

Center of British Industry.

Within two or three hours by rail and linked to the River Humber by a network of canals, live 12,000,000 to 15,000,000 people, mostly engaged in manufacturing and mining, and largely exporting their products to foreign lands and receiving from abroad the bulk of their raw material and food supplies. Seed crushing, flour milling, oil refining, and the making of paints and other goods into which these oils enter, are the special industries of Hull, England.

ENGLISH WOMEN AS MOUNTED NURSES



Woman riders of Great Britain have organized the Women's First Aid Nursing Yeomanry corps to help the fighters in the field. The photograph shows some of the members of the corps riding across open country.

RUSSIANS PRAYING BEFORE FIGHTING



Officers of the famous Preobrazhensky regiment of the Russian army kneeling in prayer for the divine blessing before going into action.

LOADING A FRENCH GUN WITH A CRANE



So heavy are the shells fired by some of the French field pieces that they have to be loaded into the gun by means of a crane, which is a part of the equipment of the great engine of death. The gun is set in what is known as a well and the gun carriage works on wheels so that the recoil carries it backward on a smooth platform.

MR. AND MRS. CHARLES S. WHITMAN



Charles S. Whitman, the governor-elect of New York, and Mrs. Whitman, photographed at Lakewood, N. J., where they went to recuperate after their successful campaign.

EMPRESS EUGENIE AS NURSE

Uses Her Home as Hospital and Personally Supervises Care of Officers.

London—Although the Empress Eugenie is almost eighty years old, she is taking the greatest interest in the war and has set aside an entire wing of her house at Farnborough Hill for the use of wounded officers. Several injured officers are now recuperating there and their aged hostess personally supervises their care.

Her estate is near the great camp at Aldershot, which King George and Queen Mary visit frequently. Practically all of Empress Eugenie's man servants have joined the army in France. Nevertheless, she entertains many of the distinguished military

men who visit Aldershot, apologizing for her plain fare and explaining that her cooks have more important work now than preparing food for an aged empress and her guests.

Britain Increases Pensions.

London—A white paper will be issued announcing a substantial increase in the pensions for disabled soldiers, but it will not concede £1 weekly, which has been asked. The childless widow will receive 5s 6d weekly and may qualify for an old age pension. The additional pension for a first child is 5s weekly and a half-crown each week for the next three. For the fifth child and onward 2s each is allowed weekly. Thus a widow with five children would get 25s each week.

DRIVER OSBORNE



Driver Osborne of L. battery, Royal Horse artillery, is likely to receive the Victoria Cross for conspicuous bravery. The battery was surprised by the Germans, every officer and most of the men were killed or wounded, and all but one of the guns put out of action. Osborne and two others stuck by the remaining gun and silenced the German pieces one by one until finally the enemy retreated.

COLONEL BRODGES



Colonel Brodges of the British army has been highly praised for his bravery in action, has been decorated by the French government with the ribbon of the Legion of Honor, and is slated to receive the Victoria Cross and the Distinguished Service Order.

When the name of a new town is spelled chiefly with consonants, as up in the press dispatches, what can a harassed telegraph editor do but shut his eyes and hope for the best?

Didn't Believe in Tatting.

Marjorie, aged four, was in the library with her father, while her mother was supervising the preparation of dinner. The attention of the head of the house was attracted by a scratching sound, and he looked up to find his daughter at work with a pair of scissors on the top of a polished table. "Marjorie," he said, sternly, "go tell your mother what you've been doing." "I won't do it, papa," she said. "Do you think I'm a tattletale?"—Judge.

The Oldest Handicraft.

The toy industry is one of the oldest industries in the world. The British museum can show us a doll (with strings of mud beads for hair) and others with movable arms, with which the children of ancient Egypt played on the banks of the Nile. Jointed dolls and dolls' furniture have come down to us from the days of Greece and Rome, and we know that balls, tops and toy animals were favorite playthings at an even earlier date.